



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

8 MAY 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Francisco – Governor Newsom Reveals Origin of COVID-19 in California

(U) Governor Gavin Newsom revealed during Thursday's COVID-19 briefing that California's first case of community spread started at a nail salon. The Governor revealed the information after being asked why hair and nail salons won't be allowed to open during the stage-two reopening set to begin on Friday, such businesses would have to wait until stage-three of California's reopening process. The Governor cited indicators from public health directors across the state that have raised red flags for close contact industries such as hair and nail salons. The location of the nail salon or when this community spread occurred was not disclosed. The first known death in the US from COVID-19 was in Santa Clara County, a woman who contracted it through community transmission on 6 February.

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [KPIX 5](#)

(U) San Leandro – Two Injured, Two Arrested After Suspected Hash Oil Lab Explodes

(U) Two people were arrested on suspicion of running a lab to extract THC from marijuana after an explosion blew off about half the roof of a San Leandro warehouse and wounded two others allegedly involved in the operations, authorities said. Officials responded to a report of an explosion at a commercial warehouse on Timothy Drive and transported two people with non-life-threatening injuries to a local hospital. One of the victims had a broken arm. Two people were arrested on suspicion of manufacturing hash oil illegally, and authorities planned to arrest the other two after they were treated at the hospital. Authorities were still trying to determine whether the lab had a license to operate.

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [SF Chronicle](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – US Arrests Along Southwest Border Significantly Dropped in April

(U) Calexico – US arrests along the border with Mexico fell dramatically in April as migrants were swiftly deported under new rules aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19, a US Customs and Border Protection official told reporters on Thursday. The US Border Patrol arrested about 16,000 migrants in April, a 47-percent decline from a month earlier, according to CBP. Acting CBP Commissioner credited the drop-off to the Trump administration's decision to "expel" migrants under a health-focused statute put into effect in March, as well as restrictions on travel put in place by other countries along the traditional migrant routes to the US border.

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – FDA Approves COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate to Begin Phase Two Trial

(U) Washington – The US Food and Drug Administration has given Moderna approval to start phase-two trials for its experimental coronavirus vaccine. The company announced Thursday that it's planning to have 600 participants in the phase-two study, which it expects to begin "shortly." It's also finalizing the protocol for phase-three, "which is expected to begin in the early summer of 2020." The Moderna

vaccine is one of many under development but was the first to begin phase-one testing in March. The first phase included 45 young, healthy volunteers. The goal was to learn about the vaccine's safety and see how the immune system responds to it.

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [ABC10](#)

(U) Georgia – Two Men Arrested and Charged After Alleged Hate Crime

(U) Brunswick – Two men involved in the fatal shooting of Ahmaud Arbery near Brunswick, Georgia, have been arrested and face murder and aggravated assault charges, according to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). The arrests come two days after a 36-second video that appears to show the deadly confrontation surfaced online. Arbery, 25, was jogging in a neighborhood outside Brunswick on 23 February when Gregory McMichael, 64, a former police officer, and his son, Travis McMichael, 34, chased him down. According to a Glynn County Police report, Gregory later told officers that he thought Arbery looked like a person whom they suspected in a series of recent break-ins in the area. After they chased down Arbery, Arbery and Travis struggled over Travis' shotgun. Gregory told police that his son shot Arbery after the latter attacked him, according to the police report.

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [CNN](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) China – Risk Level Lowered After No Deaths Reported For 22 Consecutive Days

(U) Beijing – More than five months after the coronavirus pandemic broke out in China, all counties are now at a "low-risk" of the outbreak, the government said Thursday. The decision to lower the risk level was taken as no domestic cases were reported in the Chinese mainland for four consecutive days as of Wednesday, and no new deaths for 22 consecutive days, the National Health Commission said. However, senior Chinese officials also said the spread of the "virus overseas has not been effectively curbed yet and cluster cases were reported in a few areas in China, posing considerable uncertainty to the epidemic control."

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [CNN](#)

(U) Spain – Police Arrest Man Suspected of Planning Terror Attack

(U) Barcelona – Spanish police arrested a Moroccan man on Friday suspected of planning a terror attack in the name of ISIS during Spain's COVID-19 crisis. The Civil Guard said that they had been watching the suspect for four years but that his "process of radicalization" had been accelerated during Spain's lockdown that started in mid-March to control its COVID-19 outbreak. Investigators suspected the man had been motivated by calls made by ISIS for followers to carry out attacks in their countries of residence. Police said the suspect had made "public declarations" of his allegiance to ISIS and hatred for Western countries on social media. Investigators feared he was planning an attack, perhaps using a knife or with a vehicle, in Barcelona after observing him breaking virus confinement rules to move around the city, possibly searching for a target.

SOURCE: 8 May 2020, [AP](#)

(U) Syria – US-Led Syrian Coalition Forces Capture ISIS Leader

(U) Deir el-Zour – US-led coalition special operation forces in Syria captured a mid-level leader of ISIS linked to a rise in attacks by the terror group in the countryside near Deir el-Zour. Coalition officials on Thursday hailed the mission's success but shared few details about Wednesday's raid, which included members of the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). The raid was at least the second in the Deir el-Zour area in the past week. An SDF-led operation on 1 May resulted in the arrest of an ISIS cell in Hajin that had been targeting US-backed forces in the eastern countryside of Deir el-Zour.

SOURCE: 7 May 2020, [VOA](#)

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